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**Field Environmental Biology Program for Native American Students**  
**offered by University of Notre Dame with Confederated Salish and Kootenai**  
**Tribes (Endorsed by Montana and Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council)**

**Tuition, housing and travel paid for...6 credits/summer...and get paid \$2,500/summer!!**

**First summer 9-10 weeks: UNDERC-East, a Northwoods site in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan**

**Second summer 9-10 weeks: on the Flathead Reservation in western Montana (UNDERC-West)**

The purpose of this program is to promote an understanding of field-oriented environmental biology and how field research is conducted. The program helps to prepare Native American students for advanced studies in environmental biology, so they can better manage biological resources on their lands. Also, the program promotes understanding of Native American attitudes towards the environment in non-Native American students interested in the environment, so they can incorporate these cultural insights into better management. These goals are achieved through interactions with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai tribal cultural preservation and natural resource departments, the Lac du Flambeau natural resource department, the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission and through dialogue and collaboration between students enrolled in the program.

**Eligibility:**

- Native American descent
- Minimum of Sophomore standing in an accredited college
- Planning to obtain a 4-year degree in the environmental sciences
- Admission based on past academic performance and statement of purpose

The program spans two academic years:

**First year:** UNDERC-East runs for a 9 – 10 week period (late May- late July). The UNDERC-East site encompasses more than 7500 acres with abundant wildlife (including wolves, black bear, deer, and fisher) and includes 30 lakes, several streams, wetlands, and northern forests that have been protected for nearly a century in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The summer course at UNDERC-East includes modules on bird/mammal ecology, amphibian/reptile ecology, insect ecology, aquatic ecology and forest ecology. Furthermore, each student is expected to design and complete an independent field research project under the direction and assistance of a faculty member or graduate student. Project topics have ranged from fish and small mammal ecology to forest ecology and local Native American plant use.

**Second year:** UNDERC-West also runs for a 9 – 10 week period (June – mid August). The UNDERC-West site encompasses more than a million acres with abundant wildlife (including bison, elk, mountain lion, and grizzly bear) and includes grasslands, montane forests, streams and lakes on the Flathead Reservation in Montana and associated tribal lands. Modules for West include a geologic and environmental history survey during the trip west, grassland ecology, montane ecology, avian ecology and Native American ecology. Again, an independent research project is conducted by each student in collaboration with a faculty advisor and when necessary, the CSKT Department of Natural Resources. Project topics have ranged from fish and wildlife habitat relationships to invasive plants.

**Applications** are available online (<http://underc.nd.edu>). Further information can be obtained at the UNDERC website (<http://underc.nd.edu>), from Dr. Michael Cramer, UNDERC-East Assistant Director ([mrcramer@nd.edu](mailto:mrcramer@nd.edu)) or Dr. Page Klug, UNDERC-West Assistant Director ([pklug@nd.edu](mailto:pklug@nd.edu)). **Application deadline is Friday, November 4, 2011** and notification of acceptance will be provided by **Friday, December 2, 2011**. Applicants are expected to be present for the duration of course.